

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DELIVERING AN IMPLANT  
UTILIZING A LUMEN REDUCING MEMBER

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5       The field of the invention relates to implantable  
devices, and more particularly, to a method and system for  
inserting a delivery sheath or catheter through a vascular  
body using a lumen-reducing catheter and delivering an  
implantable device through the delivery catheter or the  
10 lumen-reducing catheter.

BACKGROUND

In many clinical situations, blood vessels are  
occluded with various implants to control bleeding, prevent  
15 blood supply to tumors, block blood flow within an aneurysm  
or other vascular malformations. Intracranial aneurysms,  
for example, may rupture causing significant bleeding. The  
significant bleeding may permanently damage the surrounding  
brain tissue, possibly causing serious injury and death.  
20 Intracranial aneurysms may be particularly difficult to  
access and treat when they are formed in remote cerebral  
blood vessels. If left untreated, hemodynamic forces of  
normal pulsatile blood flow can rupture fragile tissue in  
the area of the aneurysm causing a stroke (not needed).

25       Various implants have been used to occlude vascular  
sites. For example, vaso-occlusive devices are surgical  
implants that are delivered through a catheter in a blood  
vessel or vascular cavity and placed within aneurysm to  
form a thrombus and occlude the aneurysm. In one  
30 conventional system, a guide wire is inserted through a  
vascular cavity. An outer catheter or sheath is guided by